

I am not opposed to the ideal of trying to get as many interpreters nationally certified as possible. This is a long term goal for the profession, and there are currently many barriers, making this goal unrealistic in the short term. I believe in providing quality VRS services to the Deaf community, and I have been a VRS interpreter for 8 years. I am nationally certified with RID. However, I support the current approach of having the VRS providers screen their VI staff to determine if they are qualified to interpret in the VRS setting. The profession has a great deal of work to do to improve the certification testing system before we are ready to require VI staff to be certified. Thank you.